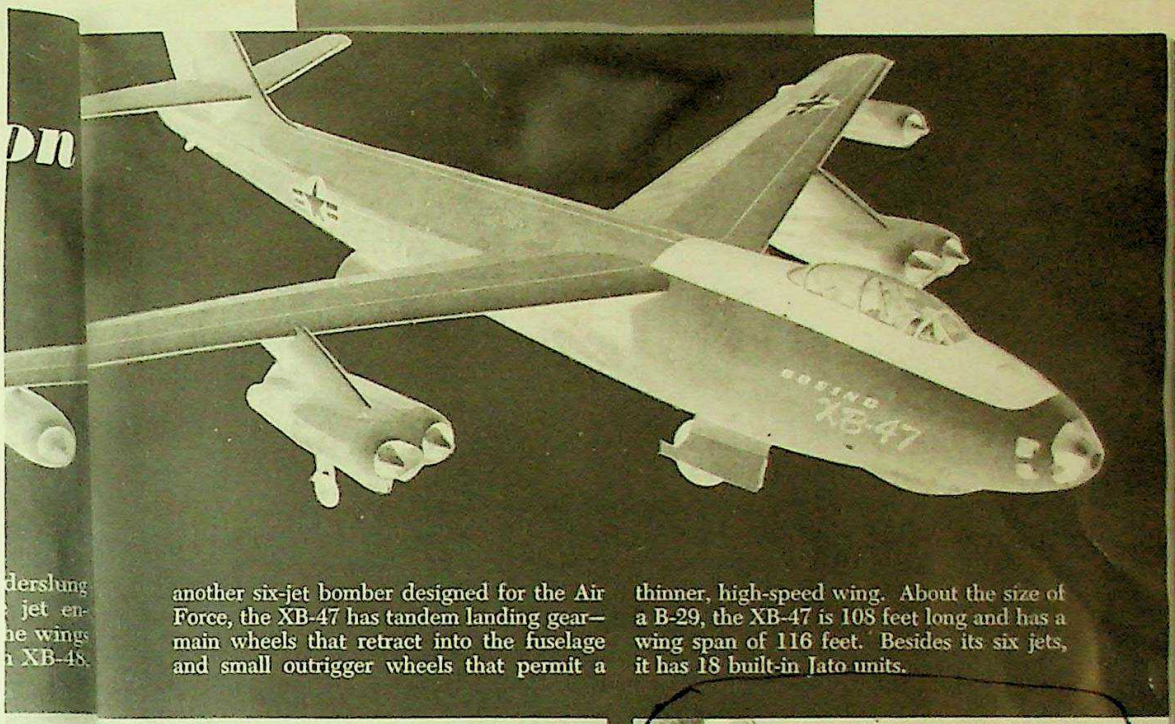
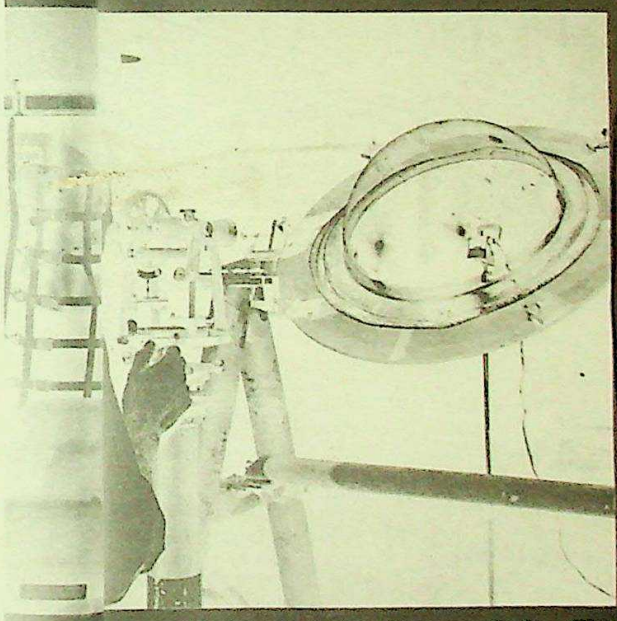
170
1636
170/135.72
(5)



another six-jet bomber designed for the Air Force, the XB-47 has tandem landing gear—main wheels that retract into the fuselage and small outrigger wheels that permit a thinner, high-speed wing. About the size of a B-29, the XB-47 is 108 feet long and has a wing span of 116 feet. Besides its six jets, it has 18 built-in Jato units.



Making Astrodomes Safe. This Northrop engineer is assuring safety for navigators "shooting the stars" through the astrodomes of flying-wing bombers. When the surveyor's transit is aligned with a light inside the clear plastic bubble, tiny deflections indicate any imperfections that might give way under pressure.

Automatic Feathering. That little black fitting on the aircraft engine shown above holds the key to a new automatic feathering device developed for Consolidated Vultee. Inside it are a torque meter and pressure switch; 1½ seconds after the engine fails, they close a circuit that twists the blades and stills the propeller.

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